

REMARKS

The Final Office Action of February 9, 2006 has been received and reviewed. Claims 3, 12, 21, and 31 were previously cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 1, 2, 7-11, 16-20, 25-30 are cancelled herein without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 4, 6, 13, 15, 22, 24, 32, 34, 42, and 43 have been amended herein without prejudice or disclaimer. All of the pending claims 4-6, 13-15, 22-24, 32-34, 42, and 43 are presented herein. This response is within two months of the mailing date of the final office action. Pursuant to MPEP 714.03 *et seq.*, this response should be entered because it raises no new issues, corrects typographical errors and rewrites dependent claims as independent claims. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claim 39 is cancelled, without prejudice or disclaimer, thereby rendering moot the objection that claim 39 is directed to a non-elected invention.

Applicants extend their thanks to the Examiner for accepting the drawings filed November 14, 2005.

The rejection of claims 1-2, 7-11, 16-20, 25-30, 35-38, 40 and 41 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite is moot in light of the cancellation of such claims, without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 42 and 43 stand rejected as allegedly indefinite for the recitation of “an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2”. Applicants have amended claims 42 and 43 to recite “the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2”, thus overcoming the rejection. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

The rejection of claims 1-2, 7-11, 16-20, 25-30, 35-38, 40 and 41 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement is moot in light of the cancellation of such claims, without prejudice or disclaimer.

The rejection of claims 1-2, 7-11, 16-20, 25-30, 35-38, 40 and 41 under 35 U.S.C. 112,

first paragraph, for lacking enablement is moot in light of the cancellation of such claims, without prejudice or disclaimer.

Applicants extend their thanks to the Examiner for indicating that claims 4-6, 13-15, 22-24, and 32-34 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicants have rewritten claims 4-6, 13-15, 22-24, and 32-34 and respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection.

Applicants are submitting a supplemental IDS with this Amendment and respectfully request the Examiner consider the reference.

CONCLUSION

If questions remain after consideration of the foregoing, the Office is kindly requested to contact Applicants' attorney at the address or telephone number given herein.

Respectfully submitted,



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